

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN



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MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN
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LINUS DARLING,

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Correspondence from particular farmers, giving
the results of their experiments, should be
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Letters should be signed with the writer's real
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most active and intelligent portion of the com-
munity.

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AGRICULTURAL.

The mangers should be cleaned care-
fully to prevent accumulation of bad
and fermented material, refuse of ensi-
lage, and the like.

PORK takes less from the farm than
does beef. The fat pig contains only
three fourths as much mineral matter
and only one-fifth as much nitrogen per
one hundred pounds as the steer.

Care of Lawns.

A well-kept lawn is a source of great
satisfaction to its owner, but unless it
receives constant attention it will often
prove anything but ornamental. Since
the introduction of the lawn mower, the
appearance of our lawns about rési-
dences in the vicinity of large cities has
become a subject of general remark
among European travellers, who fre-
quently speak of them in warm terms
of praise; while Americans, who have
visited England, are equally warm in
their praise when referring to the deep,
green, soft, velvety appearance of the
English lawn, and wondering why it is
that we cannot have the same. The dry
climate of America requires a deeper
and richer soil than that of England
to maintain a continued green through
the heat of summer, yet by prepar-
ing and taking care of the ground prop-
erly, and keeping the grass cut often, it
will grow thick and form a dense vel-
vety turf or carpet.

PREPARATION OF SOIL.

In preparing the land for a lawn, the
soil should have mixed with it by
ploughing, a quantity of peat which
has been previously composted and fer-
mented with soda ash to neutralize its
acid properties, and is then well decom-
posed; then level the land carefully and
see that it is perfectly smooth. The
main reason for using peat is that it
will retain moisture even in time of ex-
treme drought, and the lawn will not
require watering so frequently as when
no peat has been used.

MANURING THE LAWN.

Some breeding ewes are good up to
fourteen years old, but these are ex-
ceptions. Ewes may generally be as
well disposed of at six to eight years of
age. After their teeth get scanty they
are of little use.

Good seeds are important but ill-luck
is often the fault of the planter rather
than the seedman. The best seeds
cannot sprout if planted too early or
too deep or if the soil is allowed to
harden over them so that the young
shoot cannot break through the crust.

If one must be poor how much bet-
ter to be poor in the country than in
the city. If wealth in the city is some-
times to be envied, the poverty in the
city slums is correspondingly to be
pitied. In the country the poor are
never compelled to herd together like
cattle, and if willing to work can al-
ways find something to do. In the city
some people who want work at times
are absolutely unable to find employ-
ment at any price. Let us count up a
few of the advantages of the country.
Fresh air, sunshine everywhere, no
overcrowding, work at living wages,
enough to eat, opportunities to develop
character, self respect, health and inde-
pendence. In the country there is less
snobbery and class distinction. One
man is about as good as another.

TUBERCULOSIS is again becoming
prominent in the Massachusetts legisla-
ture. The new bill as scaled down by
the committee on agriculture appropri-
ates \$65,000 for the campaign. The
bill gives the state the commission power
to have animals killed without payment
except for cost of killing and burying.
If the examination shows the animal to
have been killed by mistake and not to
have been diseased the owner is to be
paid up to a \$60 limit provided the
animal was owned in the state for six
months, and provided that the owner
has not contributed to the spread of
tuberculosis by wilful neglect, which
latter clause means, it is presumed,
provided he has carried out the instruc-
tions of the commission, when his cattle
have been condemned before. This bill
is extremely severe upon cattle owners,
and it hardly seems possible that it can
be passed. It apparently means that cat-
tle having ever so slight a trace of tuber-
culosis, which might have never de-
veloped to any dangerous extent, and
from which the animal might have re-
covered, are to be condemned and de-
stroyed without payment. A bill like
this ought to be voted down without
ceremony.

TIME OF SOWING SEED.

LAWN SEED may be sown at any time
provided neither drought nor moisture
are excessive; if done early in the sea-
son the lawn has every chance of getting
into good condition in time to be of use
for several months the same year. A
dry time is the best for sowing, as raking
is then more effectual, and the ground
may be walked over with impunity.
A calm day should be chosen for this
purpose, for grass seed is so light that it is almost impossible to sow
it regularly in rough weather.

When the sowing is completed the
seed should be lightly raked in, using
a rake with the teeth not too close to-
gether, so as to disturb the seed as little
as possible. If the ground is damp at
time of sowing, care should be taken
not to walk over the seed after sowing,

more than necessary, as it will adhere
to the feet, and thus being removed will
cause blank places. The sowing being
finished, if the weather is dry, roll it
with a light roller. This being com-
pleted, the ground may be moistened
with as fine a spray as possible, so as
not to disturb the surface, and may be
kept moist as long as the weather re-
mains dry, the best time for watering
being the evening. Under favorable
circumstances, in about a week's time,
the blades of grass will be showing
themselves pretty freely, in a fortnight
they will have become sufficiently de-
veloped and numerous to give a green
appearance to the lawn, and in three
weeks from the time of sowing, they
will require checking in order to make
them tiller or spread at the root, which
after a liberal seeding, is the next point
to be observed in forming a springy
turf.

TOP DRESSING.

AMERICAN LAWN MOWERS drop the
grass as cut, and nothing is carried off,
hence the gradually increasing richness
of the soil from vegetable accumulations
is one reason why old lawns are better
than new. It is a common opinion,
however, that top dressing the lawn
with stable manure, cast thickly over
the lawn especially in the autumn, and
allowing it to remain through the winter.
There cannot often be any reasonable excuse for poorly car-
ing for dairy animals at any time of the
year. If this is practiced, there will
always be a reaction on the part of the
cows that will even more than offset any
supposed gain from economic motives.
This is only the natural result of the
laws of compensation, and which it will
be wisdom on the part of the farmer to
try to avoid.

In some parts of the country it will
not be long now before vegetation will
start anew and there will be a temptation
to turn the cows out of doors too
early. This practice is not advisable,
only in exceptional cases. While the
cows have to be fed in the barn, a taste
of grass, even the old growth, might
render the appetite and relish for their
daily rations less keen and appreciative.
This is something not to be desired, and
every farmer who is intent on excelling
in dairy matters should endeavor to feed

ANDREW H. WARD.

AN OLD-FASHIONED FARMER.

"It is not what you make on a farm
so much as what you save," said an
old-fashioned farmer who has just re-
turned to town on the profits of his
business. "It's not working hard,
either, so much as good management,"
he added.

The inflexible rule of this farmer, a
southern Connecticut man, was to buy
nothing that he could raise on the
farm. His cows and hens were fed on
home grown corn, wheat and barley.
His family ate home grown beef, pork
and mutton, and bread from home
grown wheat. Even the griddle cakes



RED CROSS CURRANT GROWN IN TREE FORM.

for breakfast were from buckwheat
raised at home and flavored with home
grown honey or maple syrup.

Some of the more modern of the
farmers thereabout laughed at the old
man, but he has stuck to his ideas all
his life, has lived comfortable, acquired
a competence and was never worried
when hard times came.

The neighbors both earned and spent
more money, but are mostly no better off
than he. Old-fashioned farming may
not appear so brilliant as the modern
plan, buying and selling everything
used or produced, but for some men at
least it is a safer and surer way.

SPRING CARE OF COWS.

The larger portion of the dairymen of
the United States, aside from those who
furnish milk for the city markets, have
their cows come fresh during the spring
months, principally in March and April.

This is the old time practice and for
various reasons is still preferred by many.

Of course during the summer
season the cows should do better than
when milked through the winter. But
where this is the case, or rather the practice,
it should always be the aim to go along
with the different varieties of fodders
being used, making as far as practicable
the most satisfactory ration for securing
the best results at the pail. This careful
feeding and treatment should be followed
as long as necessary to keep the cows at
the most profitable point for the production
of milk and butter.

FRANKLIN CO., VT.

Our illustration this week, for which
we are indebted to the courtesy of
Green's Nursery Co., represents the

Red Cross currant grown in tree form.

The Red Cross is one of the specialties

of this company, and is spoken of very

highly by authorities on the subject

who commend it for its vigor, produc-

tiveness, the large size and length of

clusters and fruit, fine quality and color.

Mr. Green says of it when grown in

this form: "While I do not recommend

growing the currant in tree form by

the market, I advise it for the home

garden, since grown in this form the

currant is as valuable for ornament as

for domestic use. The Red Cross Currant,

for which we paid \$1.25, is well

qualified for growing in tree form,

since it is one of the most vigorous in

existence, and for the further reason

that it masses its fruit so that it can be

readily gathered at one grasp, thus en-
abling a large amount of fruit to be

grown on a small portion of wood. Our

two year old tree form Red Cross are

two to three feet high and will bear the

first season."

THE UNDRESSED ATTENDANTS.

Untidy attendants constitute another

source from which milk is contaminated.

They frequently turn from cleaning the

horses, or other equally dirty work, to

milking the cows, with no thought of

their unfitness to handle milk.

E. R. TOWLE.

AIR.

AIR is a source of germs found in

milk. It is not a medium capable of

supporting bacteria by itself, but it car-
ries more or less of small particles of

dust and organic matter in suspen-
sion,

and these have many bacteria in and

upon them. On account of the dust

constantly being raised the number of

organisms in the air of a stable may be

considerable, especially if dry feed

stuffs are used and the manure is

allowed to become dry on the floor.

Over 100 different kinds of organisms

have been found in a single quart of

Uncleanliness in the Stable.

The largest part of the impurities
found in milk get into it in the short
time after it is drawn from the cow
and before it leaves the stable. This brief
period may be called the critical time in
the history of dairy products, says Bulletin
No. 63. In many stables, myriads of
bacteria are entering the milk every
minute it remains exposed, being carried
thereto by many kinds of foreign matter,
some of which would do no harm were
it not for the germs it brings. Groten-
fert mentions the following impurities
which he found in unstrained fresh
milk: Manure particles, fodder par-
ticles, molds, fungi, cow hairs, particles of
skin, human hairs, parts of insects,
down from birds, small bits of wood,
woolen threads, linen threads, fine
threads, soil particles. It is evident
that these different kinds of foreign
matter are derived from numerous
sources, but the bulk of the impurities
consists of ordinary stable dirt, chiefly
manure, and its presence in quantities,
in milk, is evidence of slovenly methods.

Over fifty grains of this matter have been
found in 100 pounds of milk, and when
it is remembered that it contains myriads
of bacteria of the forms causing
putrefaction and decomposition, it does
not seem strange that milk is soon af-
fected by its presence. Germs introduced
in this way, in large numbers, may act as poisons to the delicate consumer
and those kinds which do not require a sup-
ply of air for growth find most favorable
conditions there and the milk in the
vicinity of the teat becomes contaminated
by their increase. In this way lactic
acid, or sour milk, bacteria, which later
become so abundant, commence their
work before the milk is drawn from the
udder. Sometimes this form of contam-
ination is quite serious, the first
milk, or "foremilk," serving to affect
the whole mess.

FOREMILK.

Although milk is sterile when it is
first secreted, it is extremely difficult to
obtain sterile milk from the udder, be-
cause some germs succeed in finding
their way to it even before it is drawn.
A few drops of milk are always left in
the teat after the milking is done; and the
end of the teat remains moist. Germs from the air and from the dirt on
the udder or bedding quickly plant them-
selves in this thin layer of fresh milk and
rapidly increase in numbers. Some
work up through the orifice into the
cavity of the teat and milk duct, and those
kinds which do not require a sup-
ply of air for growth find most favorable
conditions there and the milk in the
vicinity of the teat becomes contaminated
by their increase. In this

FARMERS' MEETING.

(Continued from Eighth Page of our last week's issue.)

Mr. Gilman: I will not now take any further time, but will state my appreciation of the essay, which has been presented to us today. In my opinion, it covers the ground admirably. At one of the meetings for fixing the standard of excellence of the Plymouth Rock fowl, which was held in the city of Portland, we discussed for an hour or two that very point, the standard of excellence, and what those points should be. That was in 1873, and from that time on, I have had the same breed of fowls, and have continued to exercise the same care. At the same time, I am also encouraged to a certain extent in the development of the Jersey stock, and I believe fully what has been said.

I would move, Mr. Chairman, that a vote of thanks be passed by this meeting to the speaker, for his excellent and suggestive essay this morning, which has been presented in such an expressive style that I admire it.

The vote was unanimously passed.

Mr. Van Norman: There was one point I intended to make: The individual merit and what constitutes it should not be lost sight of, or go without emphasis, where there are so many points we are endeavoring to get the practical light of. For the farmer, the practical merit is in that animal that will produce the most money for the least expense. I am keeping today 180 cows that are averaging about nine and one-half quarts each. I have cows that for eighteen cents worth of corn and forage are producing \$1 worth of milk, and for sixteen cents cows that are producing fifty cents worth. Now, the practical side is where the individual merit in these cows, in the one that is producing the fifty cents or the \$1 worth? You will see a very considerable difference in them. Now, the question is, not to stimulate the average farmer to go into the more ethical question of structure and brain tissue, but simply as to how he can secure the greatest amount of product for the least amount of money, and if this essay will stimulate any one of us to a more careful understanding of the relation between the expense and the product, and also as to the structure of an animal to return the product, in whatever line, then we shall have acquired some good, even if we go out with some advanced theories. I am sure that Dr. Twitchell will feel more than repaid, if one goes out with an idea of the practical side of it.

Dr. Twitchell: Gov. Hoard eight years ago in that masterly address on Dairy Development opened my eyes to what I had previously been groping after, seeing but dimly. From that time to the present I have found him fruitful, as we have worked out these problems and discussed the bearings of this important subject. Through the study of this fundamental question of structure as related to, and indicating, purpose, a study the importance of which cannot be impressed too strongly, I found what I thought was, and now believe, to be the open door to this higher manifestation of the will of the owner over his animals. Intense feed functions are absolutely necessary for heavy production and without these there can be no profit from the dairy barn or milk room. For these to be secured and maintained there is demanded the uplifting influence of a dominant will clearly manifest. It seems to me it is a natural sequence that harmonious structure of the animal for the purpose for which it was intended, with special reference to its ultimate product as a whole in every part throughout must be the object. Then, I believe, we shall go back of that to realize that there is possibly, through the mental influence of the owner, what we have not yet realized.

Mr. Hatch: In regard to what has been stated here about farmers: I wish to say that I was brought up on a farm, but there are more than fifty per cent of mechanics who do not pay their expenses in a year. If a young man learns the trade of a farmer, by doing the best he can or producing the best he can, he has got as good a trade as if he was a mechanic. I have followed that line, but I would give it up in fifteen minutes if I had an opportunity to get on to a farm.

Mr. Ware: I am sorry Mr. Frost is not here to hear that. There is a man in Methuen, who was formerly a mechanic, and he could only average \$3.00 a day. He made a change in his business, bought a farm, a few acres of land and has devoted himself wholly to it and the cultivation of this land. He says he makes more money per day on managing those few acres of land, than he could possibly do as a mechanic. We know he takes a great many of our prizes at the Essex Agricultural Society. He drives a beautiful horse, is independent, is not tied to the bell of a factory, or under anybody's control or say-so, but is his own master, independent, on about five or six acres of land.

Mr. Harris: In the interest of the cows, I believe the gentleman has made a very important point in the bedding of cows, to make them comfortable. I

think bedding cows warmly pays in the long run. I think this should have some weight with farmers.

Mr. Ware at this point announced the next MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN Farmers' Meeting would be held on March 26th, in Wesleyan Hall at 10 a.m., when Hon. O. B. Hadwen of Worcester, Mass., would speak upon "Ornamental Trees."

Mr. Ware remarked that he had recently visited Mr. Hadwen's home, and that he was surprised and delighted to find so many magnificent specimens of trees and shrubs as are situated about this gentleman's place. He said it reminded him forcibly of some scenery in England. Some of the trees he set out himself are three feet in diameter. He said he was well qualified to present this subject in a practical way that will be of benefit to all, and bespoke for him a large audience.

Strawberry Culture.

On September 7, last year, I found myself in Salem, Mass., with two days of leisure at my disposal. In the morning I went up to Asylum Station, Danvers, to see my friend, J. Webb Barton, and his prize-taking acre of strawberry plants. Now I know of no one that would be likely to win from him the prize he always gets—the most quarts at the least expense per acre. It is all recorded annually in the proceedings of Essex County Agricultural Society. My friend Barton also is abundantly able to write it all out better and plainer than I can for him. I will say this. His ground is a thin, matted bed; every plant has its proper place and space to do all that it is possible for a strawberry plant to do. As he plants Haverland and Beverly exclusively, there is no question about the quantities of fruit.

In the afternoon I went to Beverly to see my friend, Benjamin M. Smith, the originator of the Beverly strawberry. Every plant had been transplanted since the middle of July and up to August 20. A new seedling, unnamed, made the finest show, which we shall be likely to hear from later. These plants were all very fine, large and vigorous. I have no doubt Mr. Smith will have plenty of the finest and largest berries the coming season.

The next day, accompanied by Mr. Smith, I went into Boston and immediately took a train to Belmont, Mass., to call on our mutual friend, Mr. Varnum Frost, who we are all willing to acknowledge as the strawberry king of this section of the country.

Now, Mr. Frost raises fancy berries and gets fancy prices. These are solid facts and go together. He gets 35 cents per quart, wholesale, by the crate, for all his berries. No one else gets this price and no one else raises such uniform, fine fruit. Every berry that goes into his basket is fine enough for a prize berry. I do not propose, and could not if I was so inclined, to give away his methods in detail, but I will say this much: One and one-half acres were plants set in July, and so up to the 20th of August. This late date is the limit for fall setting. Mr. Frost said his finest fruit would be from these plants. He had one and one-half acres of thin matted beds, all plants set in the spring had been removed, so in these beds very few plants were older than the transplanted beds. A crop of lettuce, set six inches each way, and been grown and removed from the ground occupied with the matted beds.

My method of culture is not like either of these three ways; I prefer for my conditions and market, a thin, matured row not over two and one-half wide with a path eighteen inches wide for the pickers. My way suits me, and I shall continue it unless I find something better. For the past six years I have tested all methods of culture and the leading varieties, and have settled many points to my satisfaction. I have come to the conclusion that varieties and methods are very largely local. Every one wants the best for his conditions; this can only be ascertained by actual experiments. I shall try no modification of Mr. Frost's matted beds, expecting to raise some extra nice fancy berries.

Judging from my own tests as well as from the reports of others I am satisfied that a young strawberry plant transplanted without check of growth, say in July or the first of August will produce finer and larger fruit than when allowed to remain without transplanting. Mark the words I use, I do not say more fruit. I would expect less in the middle of the field was quite too wet for two or three days longer. Thinking that the lapse of a little time would bring this section into as good condition as the other it was left, but it was found later that the drains were not close enough to draw the water and to overcome the deficiency, and other drains were put in half way between the first lot, or every eighteen feet through this section of very tenacious clay land.

Three months after these extra drains were put in, the drainage seemed quite uniform throughout the entire series. I forgot to say that Mr. Frost's varieties are Leader, for early, Belmont and Marshall. I dare say no one of his customers would take a basket of Haverland, Parker Earle or Mary as a gift. Now a word about growing fancy strawberries as a fine art.

Mr. E. C. Davis of Northampton, Mass., raises the largest berries of any person in the United States. His method is early fall or midsummer setting, so with Mr. J. F. Beaver of Day-

ton, O. Add to these names, Mr. Jerolaman's and Mr. Frost's. Any one having knowledge of these men, and the results of their methods of culture, would be venturesome to think of competing with either of them in their special line of work in growing fancy strawberries.

For a comparison, I take it there is as much difference in the methods of raising fancy and ordinary strawberries as there is in raising the fastest pacing and trotting horses and the common plow horse. To illustrate: One season I took some six boxes of common fancy berries, Beverly and Brandywine of average size, to market as samples. One marketman said Crescents were worth ten cents a box, and I don't know what yours are worth. I sold them for fifteen cents and engaged several crates at that price. Now there is more difference between Mr. Frost's Belmont and Marshall and my Beverly and Brandywine than there is between mine and the Crescent.

I should not be surprised if many of the veteran growers, who are thinking and writing that they know it all, never saw a basket of fancy strawberries. I have seen Mr. Frost's berries, Belmont, Jewell and Marshall, that measured from seven to ten inches in circumference, of uniform size of its kind and glossy as though varnished; now these would look somewhat small alongside of Mr. Davis' that measured ten to fourteen inches in circumference.

To sum up there are only two requisites for the raising of fancy strawberries to perfection. Firstly, you must know how, and secondly, you must have common sense, skill, enough to back up your knowledge. To see Mr. Frost place plants just ready to root with three motions of his hoe without stooping, was somewhat new to me. I will admit that I was foolish enough to think I could give him a point in transplanting. I had studied it up and got the theory perfect, had invented a trowel and later a hoe that would be a the tool for the tool. I could set a plant a minute with the trowel and two a minute with the hoe. Well, Mr. Frost took a despised common ten cent trowel, placed a plant in his left hand, made two motions with his trowel, and the plant was set; He could easily set six to ten plants a minute! I was willing to take off my hat and even my shoes and call it sacred ground, and that I had no part in it. I had a consciousness that the plant was set perfectly and was all ready and right glad to grow. Do you want a description of how it was done? Not much. I would like it myself. I flatter myself that I can describe anything in reason, but the touch and go was beyond the power of words to describe. One might as well attempt to explain the manipulations of a person skilled in the art of legerdemain.

If I was assured of a market at fifty cents per basket, for fancy strawberries, I might be tempted to make an effort to learn the art of growing them; as it is, I am perfectly contented to plod along and grow ordinary berries and think myself doing well when I can average twelve cents per basket for the season.—George F. Beede, Fremont, N. H., in American Gardening.

Depth and Fall of Drains and Distance Apart.

The first thing that should be said without reserve is that all drains should be put deep enough to escape the frost. It is quite evident that loamy soils will not require the drains to be as deep as a stiff clay soil, and a sandy soil will require less depth than a loamy soil. The same is true regarding distance apart. The more open the natural conditions of the land the greater the distance may be between drains. It is further true that what may be a fair distance apart in one part of a field will not answer in all parts of the same field. In very stiff soils, drains may be and are required every twenty feet to do efficient work. In the more loamy lands a distance from thirty-five to forty feet will be found sufficient, and in still more porous and open lands they may be placed as far as sixty feet apart, and do quite as good work as if they were within thirty feet of each other.

In putting in a series of drains thirty-six feet apart some years ago I found that thirty-nine out of forty-five in the series drained the ground so that within from twelve to twenty-four hours after an inch of rainfall our teams could go to work, but the ground through which the other six drains passed (nearly in the middle of the field) was quite too wet for two or three days longer. Thinking that the lapse of a little time would bring this section into as good condition as the other it was left, but it was found later that the drains were not close enough to draw the water and to overcome the deficiency, and other drains were put in half way between the first lot, or every eighteen feet through this section of very tenacious clay land.

Three months after these extra drains were put in, the drainage seemed quite uniform throughout the entire series. It has been held that the deeper the drains, the greater the distance apart. This is only partly correct, and it would not be safe to say that if a drain two feet

deep will drain forty feet, a drain three feet deep will drain sixty feet, and one four feet deep will drain eighty feet of surface. It would be more nearly correct to say that if one two feet deep drains forty feet, one three feet deep will drain fifty feet. This, however, as indicated above, must depend wholly upon the kind of soil through which the drain passes.

The necessary fall in well made tile drains is very much less than would be supposed by an inexperienced person. Wherever it is practicable without too great cost, it is desirable to have one foot fall for each one hundred feet. Much greater fall is no objection when it can be had without additional expense, and the descent may be reduced to six inches or even three to each hundred feet. Of course the drains will do good work if they have but one inch fall to the hundred feet, but this is a grade that no one should undertake to make without the aid of an expert, and an instrument. I really think that not one man in a hundred should attempt to put in the tile with less than four inches to the hundred feet without a leveling instrument to disclose irregularities in the bottom of the drain.—J. Fremont Hickman in the National Stockman.

Stock and Dairy Notes.

I know that my cows are comfortable because they are slowly, but surely going up in their annual production; starting below the 200 pound mark, I now average above 300 pounds per cow per year, including heifers and all—not phenomenal by any means, but still over 200 per cent better than the average cow in this part of the Keystone state. The gutter behind the cows is cemented, so no liquid can be absorbed to constantly vitiate the stable air. I clean out the gutter daily, and disinfect it. I air the stable thoroughly, clean up everything, and bed with clean straw. The atmosphere of my stable is sweet and pleasant. I keep the temperature above freezing at all times. Pure phenol (crystallized carbolic acid) is the best disinfectant I can get. I use it plentifully, diluted in water. Don't use the cheap carbolic acid as the odor is abominable. By this method I reduce the sources of infection to a minimum; as the unclean stable, and manure plastered cows are some of the chief sources of bad milk, and the foul air of the stable is responsible for many animal ailments.

Let us do our best to furnish our creamery or cheese factory the finest milk, and their goods will command the best prices, and we will share the profits, or if we make butter or sell milk, we never need fear a competitor, as good goods will sell themselves, while poor go begging for a market.—L. W. Lightly of Hoard's Dairyman.

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They are made in various sizes with wheel and counter, and counter, wheel, counter, wheel, counter, and counter.

Smooth, Soft, White Skin Now.

C. L. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.:

"Gentlemen: Our little daughter is now four years old. When she was about three months old, she had eruptions on her face which were very disagreeable, and itched so much, especially at night, that it made her trouble a great deal worse. I was obliged to keep her hands tied at night and it was necessary to watch her during the day. She would scratch herself whenever she had the chance, until her clothes

Would be Covered with Blood.

We had a great many doctors to see her, but they did not help her in the least. It was a terrible task to care for her. When she was about a year old, she had eruptions on her face which were very disagreeable, and itched so much, especially at night, that it made her trouble a great deal worse. I was obliged to keep her hands tied at night and it was necessary to watch her during the day. She would scratch herself whenever she had the chance, until her clothes

Smooth and White and Soft

as that of any child. I believe Hood's Sarsaparilla to be the best family medicine that can be obtained. I take it myself for headache and that tired feeling, and I have found nothing to equal it. One peculiarity about Hood's Sarsaparilla, because I had great faith in it, and after awhile we could see that she was getting better. People said she would certainly be left with scars on her face, but she was not. It is now a year since she was cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla, and her face is as

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POULTRY.

Poultry in Town.

Mechanics and others living in towns should always keep poultry. It is properly taken care of it is surprising on what a small space a few fowls can be kept and made to lay eggs every day. How much better than to pay a high price at the store and run the risk of getting stale ones. Keeping a few hens is light employment, and very suitable for old people who can often be assisted by the young members of the family. Let parents encourage their children to become interested in the business. Purchase eggs of pure bred stock, let them attend to them and have at least a share of the profits. Keep a few fowls at least and save grocery bills.—W. A. Crosby.

How Eggs Pay.

Eggs are an all the year around crop. Other crops have their harvest, when they must be sold at once or stored at an expense. With proper care hens are like money on interest, work Sundays, holidays and rainy days.

A basket of eggs carried in one hand will often bring as much money as a load of straw.

A neighbor hauled a cord of wood to market for \$2; his wife carried ten dozen eggs the same day which brought \$2.50.

A crate of eggs, which can be taken to market in a light vehicle will fetch as much as a load of corn. The cost of producing the eggs is nothing compared to the hard work and expense of producing the other.—W. A. Crosby.

Preserving Eggs.

Strong lime water is the best of the common methods of preserving eggs. If the eggs are fresh when put in they will all keep although they have a slight musty flavor imparted by the lime. Cold storage is better, when available, than any preparation that can be had. But if any lime pickle is used the following recommended by Prof Van Slyke of the Geneva, N. Y., experiment station is a good and reliable preparation: "Mix four quarts of finely slacked lime (we mention the lime by measure as it can then be used very wet or partly dry) and one quart of common salt in five gallons of water. Stir thoroughly several times, and after all is dissolved that is possible (better let stand over night) decant the clear liquid into a glazed earthenware or wooden vessel, then add one-half ounce of boracic acid. The eggs are placed in this solution. It is well to keep the liquid at the depth of three inches above the eggs. The vessel containing the eggs should be kept in a cool place and not disturbed until the eggs are taken out for use. Eggs having cracks in the shells, or thin shells will of course be spoiled in this solution. It is always essential to have eggs with clean and perfect shells, and absolutely fresh, if they are to be preserved. Eggs kept for six or seven months, and even occasionally much longer, have been found in good condition." A preparation called water glass is coming into use. Its advantage over the lime preparation just given is that it is claimed not to impart a disagreeable flavor to the eggs, but the writer has not seen the method tested. Water glass may be ordered through druggists anywhere. Water glass is really liquid glass and covers the shell with an air tight coating.

Poultry Notes.

If a poultry house is kept clean and dry there will be but little disease, but filth and moisture are sure to bring trouble if long continued.

A poor building in the hands of a skilled poultryman is better than the most perfect of buildings stocked and managed by a green-horn.

Poultry keeping is a matter of little detail of work, and everything should be arranged as conveniently as possible with a view to saving labor.

Poultry houses can be built very cheaply as lean-tos on the side of a barn, but everything considered, it is best to have the poultry house building by itself.

Of all farm animals the fowls furnish the most convenient supply of meat food, especially in warm weather when large supplies of dressed meats cannot be kept on a farm.

The dust bath should be kept up until the ground outside gets dry. The box belongs where it will get the most sunshine. It should be kept filled with road dust, mixed with fine ashes and some sulphur.

Some farmers go to the other extreme and refuse to believe there is any merit in pure bred poultry. The fact is that while cross breeds are better for certain purposes and conditions, the pure breeds sensibly and carefully managed, will remain the foundation of successful poultry culture.

APIARY.

Comb and Extracted Honey.

Ladders for fowls to reach high perches are a nuisance in hen houses. Better have the roosts only two or three feet from the floor and all of the same height. Have the roosts so that they can be taken out whenever the house is to be thoroughly cleansed.

A common mistake of beginners is to put too many windows in a henry. Too little glass is better than too much. One good sized window to a pen is enough. It should be located low down to let the sunlight to the floor. Have a sliding window to be open for ventilation warm days.

If one can choose the soil where poultry are to be kept it should be fairly light and porous. A yard located on clayey soil quickly gets tramped hard and becomes filthy. It is also too moist for the health of the fowls. There should be natural drainage to take away the surplus moisture. If the right kind of a place cannot be had, underdraining is better than to run the risk of disease.

As a rule, here in Maine, extracting cannot be profitably done before the white clover blooms. If clover fails we can then have a basswood flow, and in some localities this is the main dependence for the honey harvest. Fruit bloom makes a good quality of honey, and stocks coming through the winter in strong condition frequently fill a case of twenty sections when the apple trees are in blossom.

Here we do not count on fine marketable honey after basswood, and in sections where basswood does not abound no storage of surplus can be relied upon after the farmers have finished haying. Honey stored after that time is poor in quality and seldom amounts to more than sufficient for winter stores for the bees.

Honey to be in best marketable shape must be in packages of a size not to be broken. For comb and extracted honey alike round package is the most popular. The retail grocer will sell 50 1-pound sections to one or two of larger size. So also with extracted honey, the quart and pint jars are the ones which linger longest on the shelves if the pound package is also supplied.

For local market purposes, where one gives personal attention to his trade and confidential relations exist all around, an apiary can be run to good advantage by devoting one-half of the colonies to the production of extracted honey. In my experience of twenty-five years with a small apiary, the average price has been about the same for both forms, and as generally a given number of colonies will produce considerably more extracted honey than the others will in comb, the former makes the best returns.

As a rule we can control the size of the apiary more readily when swarms are run for extracted honey, as swarming seldom if ever occurs if combs are properly manipulated. The last of July, or at the time seeming most opportune, these large swarms, divided properly, giving the queenless portion a laying queen, will make two good swarms for wintering, the fall flow of honey, whether free or otherwise, determining whether the colonies will have to be fed for wintering.—L. F. Abbott, in the Ohio Farmer.

FARMING.

As far as my experience goes, about double the extracted honey can be procured from a given number of swarms of bees than comb honey, taking the season through. There is a time in the late summer and early fall when not much comb honey will be stored. That swarm, run through the season for extracted honey, will make a rich harvest of a somewhat inferior quality of honey—trout golden rod, fall asters and late buckwheat. But for the local market such grades of honey are not desirable, as consumers will soon learn the difference between the best and poorer grades.

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To get efficient help from any man in any position, it is essential that he be satisfied. Now how are we to accomplish this result without an outlay that the profits of farming will not justify? Most farms already have a tenant house, but suppose they have not, a plain house of three rooms, with a small wood shed and smoke house, a bit of a stable and pig pen, hen house, etc., will not cost more than \$400. From three to five acres of land will not be worth over \$100 more, making an investment on the farmer's part of \$500. Eight per cent. interest on this and two per cent. taxes amount to \$50 per year. Now, suppose you give your man this much land, let him have use of your teams and tools to work it as necessary. Let him have use of your horses so freely that he will not aspire to own a horse, but encourage him to keep a cow, a good brood sow and some poultry. Let him understand that you want to see him do well. Part of his land in corn each year will help him to keep his sow and fatten his own meat, besides having several pigs to sell each year; urge him to keep most of the land in clover. Set out a few fruit trees and grape vines, all these things will be worth vastly more to him than they will cost you. No doubt many will say, "the care of all this would take all his time, and I'll have no help after all." I don't think it will take so long as might at first sight appear, and I am very sure that the remainder of the time of a man so treated will be worth more to you in actual results than all the time of the man who lives in a hotel and has nothing that he can call his own.

The perquisites above mentioned will cost you \$50 or \$60 per year, while they will be worth to him, if well managed, three or four times that amount. I propose that you charge them against him at the former figures, allowing the difference between their cost and value to him for stability and superior efficiency. For the remainder of his compensation, I should much prefer to pay by the hour if the man is honest (and if not I would not want him at all). This, however, can be arranged to suit the parties interested, but if the pay be by day or month, I would suggest to the employer that when the short days of winter come we resume over the long scorching days of harvest; and to the employee that he remember in harvest the short days of winter when a day's work made very little slow.

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In short, apply to this as to all other questions the golden rule, and see if the farm labor problem does not solve itself to your satisfaction.—Indiana Farmer.

Propagating Raspberries and Blackberries.

Many farmers who do not know how to propagate these fruits when they wish to increase their plantations, often buy them of some nurseryman at prices much above the cost of production, which they might save if they only knew the proper methods of growing them.

No one realizes more forcibly than I the unsatisfactory nature of much farm help, and I believe a large part of it is the fault of the employer. I have noticed men who were able to provide their tools, losing half the value of their man's time by allowing him to use some shackles.

I have seen a man pay his hand seven-and-a-half cents to haul one load per day, when by merely harnessing to more horses, he could still make one load and take one-half to two-thirds more.

If your land will allow the use of a sixteen-inch riding plow, (and you have the money to pay for it,) you cannot afford to let your hand follow a ten or twelve-inch plow with two horses; and so on indefinitely. It seems to me that

Hood SPECIAL Offer for March—3 bushels. Write for prices. 1st, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$15; 2nd, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$18; 3rd, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$20; 4th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$22; 5th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$24; 6th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$26; 7th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$28; 8th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$30; 9th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$32; 10th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$34; 11th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$36; 12th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$38; 13th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$40; 14th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$42; 15th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$44; 16th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$46; 17th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$48; 18th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$50; 19th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$52; 20th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$54; 21st, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$56; 22nd, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$58; 23rd, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$60; 24th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$62; 25th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$64; 26th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$66; 27th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$68; 28th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$70; 29th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$72; 30th, solid wood, 14x14x14, \$74; 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BOSTON, MARCH 26, 1898.

Persons desiring a change in the address of their paper must state where the paper has been sent as well as the new direction.

MASS. PLOUGHMAN FARMERS' MEETING

Saturday, March 26, 1898, 10 A. M.

Essay by Hon. O. B. HADWEN, of Worcester, Mass. Subject, "Ornamental Trees."

The next MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN Farmers' Meeting will be held in Wesleyan Hall, 38 Bromfield St., Saturday morning, March 26, 1898, beginning at ten o'clock. Hon. O. B. Hadwen of Worcester, Mass., will speak on "Ornamental Trees."

The recognition of Arbor Day has not seemed of as much importance to Eastern people on account of the abundance of trees here, but many a farmer would do well to inaugurate an Arbor Day on his own farm and plant a few trees occasionally. Too many farmhouses stand out bare and unlovely, unsoftened by the grace of tree, shrub or climbing vine. Long stretches of country road, unprovided with shade of any sort, might be avoided by the planting of a few trees on the farms bordering the roadside, transforming the dusty road into a pleasant country way. The farm home may be made much more attractive by the expenditure of a little time and forethought in this way, and it will not be a useless expenditure.

There is a commercial side to this question, too, for summer boarders are more attracted to a farm home shaded by ornamental trees artistically placed, and should it become necessary to sell the farm, the price received will be a more satisfactory one, especially if a city man is the purchaser. Trees, too, make a useful windbreak, and may be made to serve the purpose of shielding an exposed building or piece of ground, and, if well placed and wisely chosen, will combine both beauty and utility.

There are few people as well fitted to speak on this subject as Mr. Hadwen, as those who have seen his beautiful farm home in Worcester well know. The great variety of trees, their artistic disposition and thrifty growth have been one of Worcester's object lessons, and added largely to the beauty of that section of the city in which he makes his home. The PLOUGHMAN extends a cordial invitation to every one to attend the meeting.

VISITORS who come to the city on Saturday should not fail to pay a visit to Horticultural Hall. Most of the exhibits there are free, but they are all well worth seeing.

ABANDONED farms are nothing peculiar to New England; they talk of them even in Kansas, of which it is said that there is not an acre in the whole state which cannot be ploughed.

THE gold boom in Alaska may be followed by a boom in farming, since it is claimed that vegetables, hay and some kinds of fruit may be raised in wonderful profusion in that strange region.

THE season is certainly very forward. Some of the farmers are already planting peas and other early vegetables. It used to be said that an early season was likely to be a dry season, but such is not always the case.

FRUIT growers should be cautioned to look out for the San Jose scale in their orchards and especially on new nursery stock. This terrible pest has been well established in many sections of New England and will cause the owners of infested orchards enormous expense before it can be cleared out.

RURAL free delivery seems to be making some progress this year, since the postoffice appropriation bill contains an item of \$150,000 for that purpose. This is three times the amount appropriated last year. Thus the movement makes a gradual process toward completion, and it is likely that in the course of half a dozen years most of the farmers will have their mail brought to their doors.

THE great wheat speculation conducted by Leiter and other Chicago manipulators has been continued all winter, an immense amount of wheat still being held by the clique. This wheat is now being sold with the result that the market is greatly unsettled. The speculation cost millions of dollars and the outcome is still uncertain, but some experts prophecy that Leiter and his associates will lose money.

A WHOLE raft of agricultural bills have been vexing the law makers on Beacon Hill this winter, but the committee have shown good judgment in reporting "ought not to pass" for most of these measures. Such has been the effect of the attempts to change the tuberculous laws; to appoint local milk inspectors; to require milk dealers to hold their non-tuberculous licenses and various other well-intended but meddlesome measures.

THE high price of wheat in this country and the abundant crops in the Argentine Republic, South America, revive the old statement, that the United States is to become an importer of grain. In fact, South American grain as well as the surplus of this country, seeks the markets of Europe. The grain fields of Argentina are growing larger and larger every year and the time may come when a short wheat crop here will make it necessary to import extensively from our southern neighbors, but that time has not yet arrived.

DR. GREENE'S GREAT PRIVATE LECTURE TO MEN.

HIS POWERFUL, THRILLING WORDS TO AN IMMENSE AUDIENCE.

GLORY OF MAN LIES IN HIS STRENGTH AND VIGOR.

MEN NEED NOT BE NERVOUS OR PHYSICALLY EXHAUSTED.

HIS READERS WILL NOT FORGET HIS HOPEFUL WORDS.

MEDICINES OF WONDROUS STRENGTHGIVING POWER.

THE SKILLED PHYSICIAN SPEAKS WITH ABSOLUTE KNOWLEDGE.

FOR HIS SUCCESS IN CURING THIS CLASS OF ILLS.

IS GREATER THAN THAT OF ANY OTHER PHYSICIAN.

An immense audience of men greeted that most successful of physicians, Dr. Greene of 34 Temple Place, Boston, Mass., in Music Hall, Boston, and listened with rapt and absorbed attention to one of the most powerful lectures ever delivered to men, a lecture filled with profound knowledge of the science of life, replete with grand truths, and teeming with vivid portrayal of those mighty facts, necessarily of a private nature, but nevertheless which constitute the very groundwork of life's knowledge, the underlying principle of the scheme of existence itself, and concerning which, men are often grossly ignorant, generally thoughtless and always careless, until a crisis arises in their lives—the loss of that vitality which distinguishes the weak from the strong, brings home to each the individual knowledge that only strength is power and that weakness means despair.

At Dr. Greene's stirring lecture these facts were brought out as only this skilled physician, thoroughly conversant with every phase of the subject, can portray the happiness which always accompanies strength and vigor, and also depict the abject misery and despair which follows weakness and docility.

No man has a right to trifling with his health. The glory of man is his strength, and strength of character, strength of mind, strength of body, are dependent upon the maintenance of sound physical health, health of each and every organ, sound and appropriate exercise of every organ, and true and complete happiness comes only to him who maintains the soundness of his nerve and physical strength, or restores and regains such strength, if by any means it is lost or impaired.

As a result of consequences, indiscretion and thoughtlessness are the great causes of physical decay, vital weakness and nervous debility among men. This condition of nerve weakness, exhausted powers and drains upon the system which should not be there, if allowed to continue, is a very reality, which affects the brain and body and tings life and existence itself with the dark gloom of despair, is the most common of diseases among men, not only among the young, but in middle life and mature years, and it is the cure of this the great problem which faces man in the present day.

Sufferers from nervous debility and exhaustion will have a weak, languid and tired feeling, with gradual failing of strength. Where formerly they had feelings of strong and vigorous health, now they have but a mere shadow of a sense of weakness, languor, dullness and exhaustion. There is a lack of ambition, with little inclination for physical or mental exertion. This is often especially noticeable in the morning, when every movement seems an effort, and the body, when it should recover, and restore strength and vigor, often leaves them in the morning more tired and exhausted than on rising.

After their nerve and mental strength will be impaired, and the endurance and energy of the body will diminish. Where formerly they could endure many consecutive hours of close application of the mind, they now find that thoughts wander, and there is inability to fix the mind for any length of time upon one subject. There is an extremely nervous and irritable condition of mind, cloudy sensation, often accompanied by disagreeable feelings in the head and eyes. Lack of inclination for company and desire to be alone mark the signs of the disease.

As these symptoms increase, there is usually a diminution of the digestive organs. There is often a bad taste in the mouth in the morning. There will be at times a pain in the back, the vision becomes dim, the memory is impaired and there are attacks of dizziness. Persons who are often nervous and suffer from gloom and depression of the mind. The nerves become so weakened after a time that the least excitement or shock will flush the face or bring on a tremor or trembling often attended by numbness, pain and tingling.

Dr. Greene expresses in blank for the victims of this insidious disease, for he realizes that this sad condition results from thoughtless ignorance of the consequences, and therefore merits and should have the sympathy of all who are in a position to help.

He has made a special study of this disease, and has discovered many new and effective remedies which will prove powerful and effective restorers of nerve strength and physical vigor to men. He will certainly and positively be cured.

You can consult Dr. Greene without charge, absolutely free, whether you call at his office, 34 Temple Place, Boston, Mass., either personally or by writing a description of the case to Dr. Greene, and he will make a special study of the same and prescribe the best and most effective medicines to cure it.

He is a man of great knowledge and experience, and if you will use these words, he will be sure to give you the best and most effective medicines to cure it.

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THE HOUSEHOLD.

WAITING.

"Little white snowdrop, just waking up,
Violet, daisy and sweet buttercup,
Under the leaves and the ice and the snow,
Waiting, waiting to grow."

"Think of the thousands of queer little seeds,
Of flowers and mosses and ferns and weeds,
That are under the leaves and the ice and the snow,
Waiting, waiting to grow."

"Think of the roots getting ready to sprout,
Spreading their slender brown fingers about,
Under the leaves and the ice and the snow,
Waiting, waiting to grow."

"Only a month, or a few weeks more,
Will they have to wait behind that door;
We will watch and listen below,
Waiting, waiting to grow."

"Nothing so small, or hidden so well,
That God cannot find it, and presently tell
His sun where to shine, and his rain where to go,
Helping, helping them grow."

—Author unknown.

A JAPANESE STORY.

A long, long time ago, there dwelt a father and mother whose little daughter was as beautiful as the sunlight itself.

But one day, the father was called to the city where the king dwelt, and so was forced to say good by to his beautiful daughter for the first time in her short life.

Now the child's mother had never been away from her home in all her life; and so when the father went so far away she was frightened. She was sure some dreadful thing would happen to him; and still she was very proud; for he was the first man from that town that had ever been called by the king to the great city.

At last the time came for the father to come back. The fond mother—as mothers in all time have done—dressed herself and the beautiful child in their prettiest dresses and together they waited his coming.

By and by he came; and he brought with him many presents for both mother and child, and besides he had marvellous stories to tell of the wonderful far-off city.

"I have brought you the most strange present," said he to his wife. "It is called a mirror. Something we have never had in our village, and I think no one of us ever even heard of one before."

Then he gave the little box to his wife, saying, "Tell me what you see."

She opened it. There lay a piece of shining metal. It was ornamented with frosted silver, carved in birds and flowers. "How beautiful!" said the wife. "How it shines! and how beautiful the birds and flowers are!"

"Look closely into it," said the husband "and tell me what else you see."

The good wife raised it and looked into it.

"Why?" she said, "I see a beautiful woman's face. How her eyes shine; and what a bright, shining face she has. And her lips are moving as if she were talking. And—how strange!—she has a dress of blue exactly like my own!"

How the husband laughed. How proud he was that he knew something no one else in the village knew.

"Dear wife," said he, "it is your own beautiful face you see; it is your own laughing eyes; for this is a mirror and it shows everything that is held before it."

"How wonderful!" was all the amazed wife could say; and all day long she and her little daughter looked into the mirror and laughed and talked with it.

But then it came into the thought of the mother, "How vain I am. I am very foolish."

And she hid the mirror away and never allowed herself to ever take one tiny peep into it.

Years passed away; the little child had grown to be a young woman as beautiful as her own mother. Indeed, she was so exactly like her mother that one could hardly tell them apart except that one was a little older than the other.

But one day the good mother grew very ill. She knew that she had only a few hours to live, and her heart was very heavy to think that her dear child would soon forget her.

So she took the little mirror out from its hiding place and called the daughter to her.

"Dear child," said she, "I am going away to leave you. But here is a little mirror. Promise me that every morning and night you will look into it, for you will see me there and then you will know that I am watching over you always. When you are happy you will see that I am happy; and when you are sad you will see that I am sad with you."

Then the mother died and the child was left alone with her father.

But she was not sad for he had the wonderful mirror. Every night and morning she looked into it and saw her mother's face looking up into hers.

Every night she told the face in the mirror all that had happened during the day; and the mother spoke back always though she could not hear what she said.

Whenever she had joyous news to tell, the mother's face was always joyous, and when she had sad news to tell the mother's face was always filled with sad sympathy.

So the child lived on, growing sweater and lovelier every day; for she thought always only such thoughts as she would like her mother to see, and did only those thoughts that her mother would like to know she had done.

"Dear mother's face grows kinder and sweeter every day," said she to her father one day.

The father's eyes filled with tears, "Yes, dear child," said he, "it does; and your own face grows every day more like your mother's. And it will be so always as long as you are good and true."

One day a handsome young prince came riding through the town. "Who is that lovely maiden?" said he, as he passed the home of this sweet young woman. "For never in my life have I seen a face so sweet. Would that she might dwell with me in my palace and be my princess!"

And so it came about that one day the beautiful daughter left her father's home to be a princess. And never till she reached the great city where the grand

ladies all had mirrors, did she know that it was her own face she had been looking into all these years.

But now she understood; and she loved her sweet mother all the more now that she knew her mother had taken this way to help her grow good and true, when she could no longer herself guide and teach her.—Primary Education.

A LITTLE BROWN SEED.

A little brown seed, way down in the ground Was sleeping so hard he heard not a sound, Till the robin called in a voice so shrill, He sleepy said, "Oh, Robin, be still!"

"Wake!" said the robin; "Oh, Johnnie—jump up." You're late; it's most time for sweet buttercup, You must come first, dear violet, you know; Johnnie—jump up, jump up and grow!"

So Johnnie awoke and pushed out of bed. In his green leaves, then yellow head. It made him so happy to see the sunlight, He bowed to the robin and said, "You were right."

—Child Garden.

THE HOME CORNER.

FREE PATTERN.

By special arrangements with the BAZAAR GLOVE-FITTING PATTERN CO., we are able to supply our readers with the Bazaar Glove Fitting Patterns every month. They are made by every one that these patterns are the simplest, most economical and most reliable patterns published. Full directions accompany each pattern, and the pattern is to be sent to us, and we will send it to you with the pattern.

MASS. PLOUGHMAN COUPON.

Cut this out, fill in your name, address, name and size of pattern desired, and mail it to THE HOME CORNER, MASS. PLOUGHMAN, BOSTON, MASS.

Name _____

Address _____

No. of Pattern _____

Size _____

Enclose ten cents to pay expenses.



7315—Boys' Blouse.

No garment worn by the growing boy is more thoroughly comfortable and satisfactory than the blouse. The model shown is well suited to flannel of all sorts, light stripes being correct for warm weather wear, dark, plain colors for present use in the gymnasium or in the ball field. The fitting is accomplished by shoulder and under-arm seams only, and the closing is effected by means of buttons sewed to the edge of the right-front and button holes worked through the center of the box-plait which finishes the left. The sleeves are one-seamed and comfortably loose. The fulness at the shoulders is collected in gathers and seamed to the arm's-eyes. The wrists are finished with straight-stitched cuffs sewed to the edge of the sleeves. At the neck is a sailor collar simply finished with machine stitching. At the lower edge is a casing through which an elastic band is run. To make this blouse for a boy of eight years will require three yards of 36-inch material. The pattern, No. 7315, is cut in sizes for children of 2, 4, 6, and 8 years. With coupon, ten cents.

Here are some of the colors which will lead in the world of fashion: Puritan gray, infant blue, serpent green, castor browns, mordore brown, Delbit blue, Roman blue, fuchsia red, and all the varying shades of grays and tans, says the Philadelphia Record.

A novelty in cotton goods is the woven figure on the ever-popular and dainty 4-in-6s. On a background of violet, green, or maize yellow, is a more pithful or wretched condition than for one to awaken to the fact, as did one of the mothers to whom reference has been made, that her own ignorance or carelessness caused the death of a loved one?

Start a new order of things. Never was "now" a more acceptable time. Put on a "John the Baptist" gown and a long cassock, have the upper part pinned until the fullness is taken out and it is as close-fitting as possible. If the skirt is not sufficiently wide at the hem, you can give it the requisite spring by a full Spanish blouse, headed by two or three rows of ribbon for a stuff or silk frock, and embroidery for a wash gown.

The blouse should be set in ten inches above the hem. Adding the blouse gives a chance to lengthen a frock; all the gowns touch all around this season.

You can easily lengthen the skirt underneath the blouse; it will never show.

The blouse is the great resort in making over a skirt, and, as all fashionable skirts will exhibit this decoration, the affair is readily arranged.

There is little change in the waist or sleeves of summer frocks. The huge sleeves were curtailed at least a year ago, so last summer's waist should pass muster, without being stamped as a veteran. Sashes will be worn generally, so the chief expense so far as the waist goes will be in buying fresh ribbons. To remodel the waist of a dress, so that it will look modish, remove the long, narrow waistcoat and put in a guimpe. You can fill in the space occupied by the old vest with the same material as the waist; let it droop slightly below the waist line so it will have a blouse effect. Round the corners of the guimpe and put some colored silk under heavy black silk passe-

menterie in the opening. When you refresh the collar, put the little rosette under the chin instead of at the back of the neck.

The up-to-date shirt-waist is made up with four little plackets arranged each side of a box-plaited centre. The shirt fastens on an invisible flap underneath the box plait. It is waist is of silk, the box plait is pierced at intervals to display pretty buttons. The wash waist of gingham is really more stylish without the studs, so in that case the box plait is innocent of buttonholes.

The bicycling costumes this season are made on much the same lines as last year, with the skirt of medium length, cut so as to look well both on and off the wheel, says Harper's Bazaar. For midsummer, shirt-waists will be worn with this skirt. For early spring wear, the newest coat is the style between an Eton and a mess jacket. It fastens at the throat, and yet hangs away at the waist-line. It is finished down either side of the front with a row of little bone buttons, has a narrow turn-over collar and three straps of cord which go across and over again, fastening or not, as desired. The skirt, which opens at the side, as all good bicycle skirts must needs do, has two short rows of small bone buttons on either side of the front breadth. The material most in favor is light cheviot of a tan color; but there are many gowns made up in dark blue and black.

Chrysanthemums will begin to throw up shoots as soon as they come to the light. Select the strongest of these and cut them away from the old plant with some roots attached. Put them in small pots. Aim to get them well established before rapid growth is encouraged. By so doing you lay a foundation for future excellence. Chrysanthemums forced while young seldom make good plants.

Hydrangeas should not be pruned any in spring, as that would interfere with the season's crop of flowers. As soon as growth sets in set that the plant gets all the water it can make use of, and give a fertilizer liberally to encourage the development of the buds.

Gloxinias and tuberous begonias should be potted now. Use a compost of leaf-mold and sand. Keep the soil rather dry until the plants begin to grow.

Give them good light, but keep them out of strong sunshine. Five-inch pots will be large enough for the season.

Start tuberous and dahlias into growth. These plant come from countries where the season is long, and we, not only by the dwellers in large towns where hygiene matters are of necessity often agitated and brought to the attention of everyone, but by housekeepers in the most remote country homes, goes without saying, says the N. Y. Observer.

And yet several cases of diphtheria and typhoid fever that have occurred in the homes of thrifty farmers, (three of which were unquestionably caused by the poisonous gases from decaying vegetables and fruit stored in the cellars, and the others by an untrapped sink drain in a room that served the double purpose of kitchen and dining room) since the unusually warm and damp weather of January shows that among even the more intelligent housewives it is a general, vague sort of knowledge, rather than a clear and entire comprehension of the "you shall and you shall not" of home sanitation.

Granted that the value of a properly made cellar as the foundation for a house, and for the cold storage of vegetables, fruit and other edibles especially in country houses—is fully appreciated, it still has a much more important bearing upon the health of a family than we are in the habit of believing.

In fact, aside from the drainage and sewerage, it is the most important feature of the house from a sanitary point of view, as little benefit can be derived from it, as from use of purifiers and disinfectants, or even the most perfect sanitary conditions above ground, it the cellar is damp and unwholesome.

The air which is breathed in the first and second stories of a house is largely composed of the atmosphere of the cellar. This being so, a cellar ought to be as clean and dry and fresh as any room in the house; and if properly made, it resists wholly with the housewife whether it is such a convenient and comfortable, or a menace to the health of the family, if not a productive disease breeder. Can anyone imagine a more pithful or wretched condition than for one to awaken to the fact, as did one of the mothers to whom reference has been made, that her own ignorance or carelessness caused the death of a loved one?

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Chrysanthemums will begin to throw up shoots as soon as they come to the light. Select the strongest of these and cut them away from the old plant with some roots attached. Put them in small pots. Aim to get them well established before rapid growth is encouraged. By so doing you lay a foundation for future excellence. Chrysanthemums forced while young seldom make good plants.

Hydrangeas should not be pruned any in spring, as that would interfere with the season's crop of flowers. As soon as growth sets in set that the plant gets all the water it can make use of, and give a fertilizer liberally to encourage the development of the buds.

Gloxinias and tuberous begonias should be potted now. Use a compost of leaf-mold and sand. Keep the soil rather dry until the plants begin to grow.

Give them good light, but keep them out of strong sunshine. Five-inch pots will be large enough for the season.

Start tuberous and dahlias into growth. These plant come from countries where the season is long, and we, not only by the dwellers in large towns where hygiene matters are of necessity often agitated, or the housewife whether it is such a convenient and comfortable, or a menace to the health of the family, if not a productive disease breeder. Can anyone imagine a more pithful or wretched condition than for one to awaken to the fact, as did one of the mothers to whom reference has been made, that her own ignorance or carelessness caused the death of a loved one?

Start a new order of things. Never was "now" a more acceptable time. Put on a "John the Baptist" gown and a long cassock, have the upper part pinned until the fullness is taken out and it is as close-fitting as possible. If the skirt is not sufficiently wide at the hem, you can give it the requisite spring by a full Spanish blouse, headed by two or three rows of ribbon for a stuff or silk frock, and embroidery for a wash gown.

The blouse should be set in ten inches above the hem. Adding the blouse gives a chance to lengthen a frock; all the gowns touch all around this season.

You can easily lengthen the skirt underneath the blouse; it will never show.

The blouse is the great resort in making over a skirt, and, as all fashionable skirts will exhibit this decoration, the affair is readily arranged.

There is little change in the waist or sleeves of summer frocks. The huge sleeves were curtailed at least a year ago, so last summer's waist should pass muster, without being stamped as a veteran. Sashes will be worn generally



THE HORSE.

The Carriage Horse.

Breeding and educating the carriage horse for the market is undoubtedly a remunerative industry, provided the animal raised comes into the grade termed "first-class." Second-class animals, be they ever so well matched as pairs, only command prices up to cost of production. Horses from eleven hundred and fifty pounds to twelve hundred and fifty pounds, competent to draw a family carriage at the rate of eight or ten miles an hour, are always in demand at home and abroad at remunerative prices. The education from colthood up to the adult age of five years brings out the characteristic mien when the animal has the desired conformation with breeding, but without the education the style is absent and the price goes down. The straw yard well littered is the means of bringing out the knee and hock action, and the "dumb jockey," as it is termed, develops the carriage of the head and neck, with the elevated tail so much admired in good society.

Steady, quiet driving with a staid horse alongside the pole of a break wagon daily for five or six weeks for an hour a day, getting the colt well acquainted with objects met with on the road, caressing him when timid, instead of using the whip, will give the colt confidence that no harm will happen to him. Thus he will be free from nervousness and the tendency to take fright.

It is the quiet handling of the young horse that makes him a fearless animal, whereas the use of the whip develops excitability and skittishness never to be eradicated.

Ladies have a word in purchasing carriage horses and always look for docility. The least display of a fractious temperament often stops the sale of an otherwise desirable pair of horses.

After a horse has been well beaten with a driving whip he never forgets the flagellation, so that when a passing driver uses his whip it excites the young horse and arouses doubts as to his temper and steadiness.

There is no necessity to drive young horses long journeys when educating them. Short journeys, which accustom them to the pole and to objects on the road, are all that is needed. The risk of throwing out splints, spavins and curbs need not be encountered by driving at a fast pace or making long journeys. The object is to educate the youngster so that his tractability and good manners will attract attention and result in a profitable sale.—Baltimore Sun.

The trustees of the Maine State Fair have decided to drop the two-year-old trotting stakes, believing it for the best interests of horse breeding not to encourage fast trotting by horses at this tender age, the judgment of many eminent horsemen being that trotting at this age was apt to be injurious and of doubtful advantage to the horse breeding industry.

Nothing equal to GERMAN PEAT MOSS for horse bedding. Healthy and economical and widely used. C. B. Barrett, importer, 45 North Market street, Boston.

BIGGEST Harness Sale

Ever Known in the History of the Harness Trade in Boston.

We have just purchased the entire stock of James R. Hill & Co., and while alterations to the building are in progress we will close out an immense stock of their celebrated "Concord" and other makes of Harness for every conceivable purpose at less than half their value. This is a genuine bargain sale of this line of goods and will last but a short time only.

Reduced to
\$12.00 Buggy Harness. \$12.00
\$40.00 Buggy Harness. 36.00
\$80.00 Buggy Harness. 58.00
\$90.00 Harnesses, Sellar & Hame Harness. 19.50
\$60.00 Silver Collar. 12.00
\$40.00 Genuine Rubber Carriall Harness. 66.75
\$125.00 Goddard Buggy or Trap Harness. 67.50
Coupe and Rockaway Harness. 35.00, \$60.00, \$75.00
Long Tug Coach, reduced to 12.00, \$25.00, \$34.00
Concord "Hack," reduced from \$100.00 to \$75.00
Lish Driving Doubles, Prices cut almost in two.
Heavy Double Team, Express and Farm Harness
\$30.00 to \$55.00
Express and Delivery, \$16.75, \$17.50 and \$22.00
according to weight.
A few ladies' second hand driving Saddles left.
Boston, March 26, 1898.

If not convenient to make a personal visit and inspection, send in your orders by mail, describing the kind of Harness you want. We will give you as good a bargain as if you made your own selection, and will send it anywhere in New England, with privilege of returning it at our expense if not satisfactory.

LONDON HARNESS STORE CO.,
300 Devonshire St., Near Franklin.

Boston Cooking School.

All ingredients mentioned in the following recipes are measured level.

The lesson given at the Cooking School, Wednesday morning, March 23, included nothing which could not be easily prepared in one's own home for the family table and any family would be very glad to welcome the introduction of any of the dishes into their daily menu. Chicken Gumbo, Fish Timbals, Shrimp Sauce, Livers with Tomato Sauce, Zwieback, Coffee and Pistachio Croquettes with Claret Sauce were prepared and served.

CHICKEN GUMBO. Cook one quart chicken stock, one pint okra and one pint tomato fifteen minutes. Fry one-half cupful pork cubes with an onion; add two tablespoomfuls flour, and brown. Strain into the soup, season with salt, pepper and cayenne; add one cupful chicken cut in cubes, boil two minutes and serve.

This had a very good flavor. The okra is grown more in the South than it is here in the North, and is not very frequently found fresh in the market. It may be had in cans, however, and the flavor is very pleasant. If the tomato acid, a small amount of soda may be necessary.

FISH TIMBALS. To one pound cooked halibut, finely chopped, add one teaspoonful salt, a few drops onion juice, one and one-half teaspoonful lemon juice, a few small cayenne, and one-third cupful thick cream beaten. Fold in the whites of three eggs beaten stiff. Cook until firm, in small buttered moulds, and set in a pan of hot water, covered with buttered paper, bottomed side down.

This quantity makes eight moulds full, if the small ones are used. These may be garnished with truffles cut in fancy shapes, or chopped, or with lobster coral. Those at the lesson were garnished with a whole shrimp on each timbal, and lobster coral sprinkled upon it, a tiny sprig of parsley being added to give a bit of green. The effect was a pretty one but the timbals were good enough without the addition of the garnish.

If it is desired to keep lobster coral a day or two, it is easily done by putting it in a kind of pickle made by adding a little vinegar to salted water. Freshen the coral before using. These timbals may also be made with lobster

bottomed, buttered side down.

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PISTACHIO CROQUETTES.—To one quart cream add three-fourths cupful sugar, three-fourths tablespoomful vanilla and one teaspoonful almond; color green, and freeze. Shape in cones with an ice cream server and roll in macaroni dust made by powdering stale macaroni.

These were very pretty and sufficiently good without the sauce.

CLARET SAUCE.—Boil one cupful sugar and one-fourth cupful water eight minutes or until it thickens slightly; cool, and add one-third cupful claret.

The next lesson will be given at the rooms of the Cooking School, 372 Boylston St., Wednesday morning, March 30, beginning at ten o'clock. The subject will be "Cake and Frosting." Single admission, fifty cents.

own home, as much of it is lost when the ground coffee is not immediately used. Ground coffee is better kept in a glass jar with a closely fitting cover. For boiled coffee, it should be ground either coarse or medium; for filtered, it is necessary to grind it fine. There are many kinds of coffee pots on the market, most of them good. At the Cooking School where they make boiled coffee (and delicious coffee it is, too) the coffee pot is a granite one, with a very short spout. The longer the spout, the more danger of its getting clogged and the less likelihood of its being thoroughly cleansed. Great care should be exercised to keep the coffee pot perfectly clean. It should be washed with clear water, not soapsuds, and if it is difficult to remove the dark deposit, it should be filled with cold water, a little borax, soda or ammonia added, and set on the stove to slowly heat. This loosens the dirt and it may easily be removed. The pot should be thoroughly dry before setting it away, and it should never be left with the coffee or coffee grounds in it. It is better to take the precaution to thoroughly scald the pot just before making the coffee, as much of the success depends upon the condition of the coffee pot.

To retain the aroma of the coffee, plug the spout of the pot. If a larger quantity of coffee is made than is required, the remainder should not be reheated and served again but strained from the coffee grounds and will serve as a very good flavoring for custards, cakes and various desserts. For clearing the coffee, use eggs, fishskin or any of the coffee clearers for sale. The egg shell to which some of the albumen of the egg usually clings, may be added, and four egg shells alone will be sufficient to use with one cupful of ground coffee. In making larger or smaller quantities than that allowed for in the recipe, use always the same proportions. Serve with cream or scalded stale. Those who cannot drink coffee will usually like one of the cereal coffeees on the market, and a good flavor will be given by using one-fourth or one-third real coffee in combination.

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Mass. Horticultural Society.

The annual spring exhibition of the society was one of the largest ever held, and the space provided was not half large enough to accommodate all the specimens offered for exhibition. Hyacinths, lilies, tulips, narcissi, Jonquils and many other spring beauties contributed to the beauty of the exhibition. More than \$1,100 in prizes were offered.

Hon. E. S. Converse, Mrs. John L. Gardner, Dr. Weld, J. S. Bailey and Mrs. B. P. Cheney contribute the largest collections, which include cinerarias, hardy primroses, crocuses, fritillaries, etc. Three remarkably fine acacia trees, with their feathery yellow flowers, are the centre of attraction in their surroundings of choice azaleas, and other hard-wooded plants, natives of New Zealand and Australia, and grown by Dr. Weld.

For nearly a quarter of a century, the advertising agent, Mr. F. P. Shumway, has occupied offices in the Ballard Building on Bromfield St. This spring, he has established himself in handsomely appointed offices, in the new Jewell's Building at the corner of Bromfield and Washington Sts., a move which is a good evidence of prosperity. Mr. Shumway is an advertising agent who enjoys the reputation of having served the interests of his clients so well that through his judicious designing and placing of their advertising, the business of many small concerns has increased to large proportions. Mr. Shumway handles the advertising for many prominent concerns both in this city and elsewhere and entirely to their satisfaction.

COUNTRY REAL ESTATE.

The farm formerly owned by J. A. Morrison at Natick, on the corner of Worcester and Oak streets, and consisting of about 90 acres has been sold to Jerome Nelson of Boston.

Patrick O'Connell of Boston has purchased the farm on the main road at West Sherborn, owned by John Grimbleton of that place, and containing about ten acres of land, with house, stable, henry, greenhouses, horses, cows, poultry, stock, tools and merchandise.

An eighteen-acre farm in Maple street, Franklin, has been sold by H. E. Sally to Henry George, on private terms.

The Drake estate, the homestead farm at the corner of Hartford turnpike and Holliston streets, Bellington, has been sold to a New York man, who buys for a summer home.

Henry L. Houghton of Boston has purchased the Emerson estate in Millis, consisting of a large dwelling-house, cottages and other buildings, and 220 acres of land. This country seat is one of the best in Norfolk County; the buildings are equipped with all conveniences, including an independent electric power and lighting plant. The tax value is \$19,000.

The hall below there are cut flowers and vegetables. Noticeable here is the large vase containing more than a hundred blooms of the new seedling carnation, Mrs. Thomas W. Lawson, grown by Peter Fisher. Such sturdy stems and large, deep tinted blossoms are not often seen, and they were the subject of much admiring comment by the professional gardeners and florists as they were arranging their own collections this morning. James Conley of Lexington displays twenty varieties of camellias and fifty varieties of roses, besides orange blossoms, wistaria, azaleas, etc., and a queer specimen of Easter lilies and azaleas.

These are very good indeed, and much healthier than fresh bread, twice baked bread being always more easily digested. They are especially appropriate in a loaf instead of the rolls, although the genuine Zwieback is always good in this form.

Coffee.—Beat one egg slightly, add one cupful coffee and one-half cupful cold water. Pour into a sealed coffee pot, add six cupfuls freshly boiling water, stir well, and boil three minutes. Add one-half cupful cold water, and let stand ten minutes.

Opinions differ as to whether boiled or filtered coffee is least harmful. For black coffee, Miss Farmer recommends filtered coffee, but considers boiled coffee the better for ordinary use. A combination of Mocha and Java is the general favorite, the malle berry Java being considered the finest coffee to be had. The real coffee aroma is best obtained by grinding the coffee in one's

own home, as much of it is lost when the ground coffee is not immediately used. Ground coffee is better kept in a glass jar with a closely fitting cover. For boiled coffee, it should be ground either coarse or medium; for filtered, it is necessary to grind it fine. There are many kinds of coffee pots on the market, most of them good. At the Cooking School where they make boiled coffee (and delicious coffee it is, too) the coffee pot is a granite one, with a very short spout. The longer the spout, the more danger of its getting clogged and the less likelihood of its being thoroughly cleansed. Great care should be exercised to keep the coffee pot perfectly clean. It should be washed with clear water, not soapsuds, and if it is difficult to remove the dark deposit, it should be filled with cold water, a little borax, soda or ammonia added, and set on the stove to slowly heat. This loosens the dirt and it may easily be removed. The pot should be thoroughly dry before setting it away, and it should never be left with the coffee or coffee grounds in it. It is better to take the precaution to thoroughly scald the pot just before making the coffee, as much of the success depends upon the condition of the coffee pot.

The vegetable display was a fine one, the rhubarb grown by George D. Moore being equal to that in mid-summer. Potatoes, radishes, lettuce, cucumbers, parsley and spinach were also on exhibition. I. E. Coburn and F. J. Kinney each show large mushrooms, and Lapham Brothers sent celery from Florida. M. R. Cushing of Cohasset sent a box of growing strawberries.

GRANGE NOTES

Old Colony Pomona Grange.

At the meeting of the Old Colony Pomona Grange, held at Stoughton, March 19, about 100 members were present. The roll call of officers found all present. After the regular business had been transacted the meeting was turned into the hands of the Worthy lecturer. The subject for discussion, "The duty of the Grange to our Public Schools," was then taken up, H. L. Naramore of Sharon was the first speaker, and he was followed by W. E. Beales of Brockton, this ended the morning session, and was followed by a turkey dinner in the banquet hall.

The afternoon session opened with an address of welcome by Mrs. Edina Tilden of Stoughton, response by W. Howard of South Easton. A paper was then read by Harriet P. Cooper, M. D., of Millis, subject, "The New Science." Violin solo, W. E. Cotter, of Stoughton, which called for an encore; reading by Mrs. Abel F. Stevens, of Wellesley, which also received an encore; solo by Miss Watts of Easton, which received an encore. Abel F. Stevens of Wellesley was the next speaker and his subject was "Paying crops on small farms," and was something of vital interest to every farmer, especially the kind of seeds to plant and the kind of phosphates to use and how to make them. The full report of his address and the formulas will appear in the next issue of the Grange News. It was one of the most interesting meetings held for some time.

Farmers will do well to notice the special offer for March made this week by Hood Farm. A good chance is presented to get a bull that will improve your herd. These bulls should not be allowed to go out of New England.

AN EVIDENCE OF PROSPERITY.

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The need of a good Spring medicine is almost universal and Hood's Sarsaparilla exactly meets this need. Be sure to get Hood's.

EVERYBODY TALKS OF THE KIENDIKE.

With the approach of spring and the opening days of navigation and transportation in Alaska, the interest in the wonderful gold mines of the Klondike is increasing. Those of our readers who contemplate the long journey, should put themselves into communication promptly with the Joseph Ladue Gold Mining and Development Company of Yukon. This company, which has been organized by some of the most prominent financiers of New York

The HIGHEST GRADE IN STRENGTH and QUALITY
THE MAPES FERTILIZERS.

HIGH STANDARD FULLY MAINTAINED.

Official Analyses of the Mapes Manures at the CONNECTICUT STATE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION, Prof. S. W. Johnson, Director, the Oldest Station in the Country.

The Mapes Potato Manure.

Ammonia. Phosphoric Acid. Potash.

1890. 4.76 10.40 7.70
1891. 4.78 10.44 6.51
1892. 4.78 10.04 6.10
1893. 5.53 10.75 6.39
1894. 5.18 12.00 6.52
1895. 5.18 12.11 7.75
1896. 4.72 11.10 7.39
1897. 4.67 13.07 7.50
1898. 4.67 12.92 7.32
1899. 4.65 11.47 7.17
1900. 4.74 10.76 7.32
1901. 4.74 10.76 7.32
1902. 4.74 10.76 7.32
1903. 4.83 9.95 7.65
1904. 4.77 10.43 7.42
1905. 4.77 10.43 7.42
1906. 4.46 10.64 7.28
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